

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Alabama Department of Public Safety

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### **DPS Director Swears in New Troopers** *Sixteen Members of Class 2008-A to Join Trooper Ranks*

**MONTGOMERY** — Graduation ceremonies were held Friday, Sept. 5, in Montgomery for the 16 members of Trooper Class 2008-A. State Rep. John F. Knight Jr. served as featured guest speaker at the graduation, and Department of Public Safety Director Col. J. Christopher Murphy administered the oath of office to commission the new troopers.

Murphy congratulated the new troopers and praised their determination and hard work. "Today you become a valuable partner in Public Safety's ongoing work to serve and protect the people of this state," he said.

"As Alabama state troopers, you join a proud heritage of service that dates back to the founding of the Alabama Highway Patrol in 1935," said Murphy. "In your new assignments with the Highway Patrol and throughout your careers, always remember your obligation to reflect and build upon this legacy of courtesy, service and protection."

Each of the new troopers completed a 12-week, accelerated training program at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, DPS's training academy in Selma. The accelerated program is designed for trooper trainees who have completed minimum standards training and are certified by the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission prior to reporting to the academy. The training regimen for applicants without prior APOST certification is 22 weeks.

Several class members were recognized for outstanding achievement. The Marksmanship Award went to Bruce A. Little for exhibiting the highest level of knowledge, skill and safety in firearms training; and the Fitness Award went to Adam C. Thomas for attaining the highest level of physical fitness. Randall S. Lee earned the Academic Award for achieving the highest overall grade point average, and the Highway Response and Driving Award for demonstrating a high level of knowledge and ability in defensive and pursuit driving.

Lee also was selected as the class's top performer overall, receiving the Commander's Award for exhibiting exceptional leadership, professionalism and dedication to Class 2008-A and the Department of Public Safety, while maintaining a high academic average.

A roster of the members of Class 2008-A, along with their post and county assignments, follows:

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*for more information contact:*

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>County</u>
Jeffrey B. Christian	Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa
Cameron W. Fillingim	Evergreen	Escambia
Tashanna N. Garcia	Jacksonville	Calhoun
Tyler R. Kane	Mobile	Baldwin
Randall S. Lee	Dothan	Barbour
Bruce A. Little	Montgomery	Lowndes
Charles T. McCord	Dothan	Barbour
Terry J. Nelson	Dothan	Barbour
Darrell G. Newman	Alexander City	Coosa
Gary L. Peek	Evergreen	Butler
Robert Pettit	Decatur	Morgan
Adam W. Robinson	Evergreen	Butler
Adam C. Thomas	Mobile	Mobile
David H. Tyner	Selma	Dallas
Justin M. Vann	Evergreen	Butler
Jacob C. Zimmerman	Opelika	Macon

Photographs of the new troopers are available on Public Safety's Web site  
<http://dps.alabama.gov/> under the Administrative Division link.

Sept. 5, 2008



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